



## City of St. Helena to Receive \$3 Million for Flood Protection March 29, 2005

**Washington, DC** – U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) today announced that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program will award more than \$3 million to the City of St. Helena to address flooding along the Napa River.

**"St. Helena has suffered repeated losses due to flooding,"** Senator Feinstein said. **"The city has developed a flood protection and environmental restoration project in close consultation with the community. The plan will not only provide a 100-year level of protection, but will also meet environmental and sustainability goals of the community through its effort to develop floodplain terraces, home relocations and setback levees."**

Previous FEMA funds helped the city identify elements of the flood control project and these new funds, which Senator Feinstein helped to secure, will provide assistance to move this project forward with public outreach, engineering design and obtaining permits.

The city's comprehensive flood control project to be funded by Measure A, a bond measure approved by local voters, would reduce the risks posed by flooding along the Napa River and would also reduce damage to structures and public infrastructure in an area of the city that suffers from repetitive flooding. This grant, when added to a previous award for initial environmental and feasibility studies, represents a combined FEMA contribution of \$3,535,053.

FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program provides grants to States and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. The purpose of the program is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster. FEMA can fund up to 75 % of the eligible costs of each project.

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